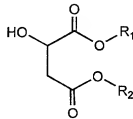


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention provides water-based compositions, particularly coating, ink,
5 fountain solution, adhesive and agricultural compositions, manifesting reduced
equilibrium and dynamic surface tension by the incorporation of a surface tension
reducing amount of certain malate diester compounds of the structure



10 where R₁ and R₂ are C3 to C6 alkyl groups.

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